



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fact Sheet

**MAYOR SANDERS FLIPS SWITCH TO TURN ON HOLIDAY LIGHTS IN
BALBOA PARK AND ENCOURAGES SAN DIEGANS TO VISIT THE CITY'S
CROWN JEWEL FOR BALBOA PARK DECEMBER NIGHTS**

*MORE THAN 28,000 ENERGY EFFICIENT LED LIGHTS WILL DECORATE
THE PLAZA DE PANAMA AT DECEMBER NIGHTS
AND THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF DECEMBER*

Mayor Jerry Sanders tonight flipped the switch to turn on the SDG&E Holiday Light Canopy which will cover the center of The Plaza de Panama during Balboa Park December Nights and throughout the month of December.

Returning as a sponsor to support Balboa Park December Nights for the fourth year, the opportunity to be part of the December Nights celebration allows SDG&E to support the much beloved community tradition while introducing a new, environmentally sensitive, technology to San Diegans.

The **SDG&E Holiday Light Canopy** covers the center of The Prado's Plaza and welcome visitors with dazzling holiday cheer.

More than 28,000 sparkling energy-efficient LED lights are included in the canopy and the accompanying "tree of lights".

As a special gift to the citizens of San Diego, SDG&E will leave the lights in Balboa Park throughout the month of December.

New this year, SDGE has decorated the Laurel Street Bridge with 2,500 multi-colored LED lights to welcome visitors to December Nights.





LED Lights Are Environmentally Sensitive and Safer to Use

San Diegans are encouraged to consider LED (light-emitting diode) technology when purchasing every-day or decorative lighting.

LED Lights:

- Can save 90 percent or more in energy costs when compared to incandescent light bulbs.
- Don't get as hot; making them safer in homes and with small children and animals.
- Last much longer than standard bulbs.

Electric-Light Safety Tips

- Buy only lights with an Underwriter Laboratories safety-approved label.
- When pulling lights out of storage, take a few minutes to inspect them for frayed cords, loose connections and broken sockets, or dried-out insulation.
- Attach outdoor lights with hooks. Don't hammer nails or tacks through cords.
- Never use an aluminum ladder or metal-handled tools around power lines, and avoid working around the lines leading to your home or business.
- Avoid stringing outdoor lights when it's wet outside.
- Never use indoor lights outside.
- Keep the Christmas tree in water, but the light cords out of the water.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree; use colored directional lights instead.



Balboa Park December Nights

San Diego's favorite kick-off to the holiday season, Balboa Park December Nights *Presented by Barona* will take place for the 29th consecutive year on Friday, December 7, 5:00-10:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 8, Noon-10:00 p.m.

In the spirit of the holidays, participating Balboa Park museums open their doors free of charge from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. both evenings.

The beloved San Diego event features sparkling lights, theatrical and musical entertainment, and food, food and more food throughout the Park. "My Ancestors' Village," sponsored by Barona, shares the rich culture of San Diego's Native American community with December Nights visitors.



The largest free community festival in San Diego, December Nights is expected to attract more than 300,000 visitors and is co-produced by the City of San Diego and the San Diego Business Improvement District (BID) Council.

Venue Hosts include the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership, House of Hospitality, and City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department.

For complete details regarding the event please visit www.visitdecemberevents.com